

# Montana Sportsmen ALLIANCE

## Voice of Reason on Montana Fish and Wildlife Issues

TO THE HOUSE FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS COMMITTEE:

**RE: SB 341**-AN ACT ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE TRANSPLANTATION OR AUGMENTATION OF CERTAIN WILDLIFE SPECIES

**POSITION:** Montana Sportsmen Alliance hereby goes on record **ADAMANTLY OPPOSING** this bill based on the following reasons:

- The requirements of this bill would effectively eliminate most, if not all, future augmentations, transplantations and new introductions of big game species.
- Wildlife is not subservient to livestock on public land.
- The Montana Supreme Court has ruled that private landowners must accept the existence of wildlife on their private land.
- Private landowners who lease public lands enjoy a lease rate far below fair market value. Landowners leasing public lands must share those lands with wildlife.
- Decisions pertaining to wildlife management must be made by wildlife professionals after taking comments from the public.
- While "sound science" is briefly mentioned, it is apparent that this bill relegates science to low priority in the decision making process.

Once again we would like to state our **ADAMANT OPPOSITION for SB 341.**

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